

**IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.**

FEBRUARY 6, 1833.

Received.

**AN ACT**

**To establish a town at St. Marks, in Florida.**

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*  
3 *the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, au-*  
4 *thorized to cause so much of the public lands at or near St.*  
5 *Marks, in the Territory of Florida, as he may deem proper, to*  
6 *be laid off into town lots, not to contain more than one quar-*  
7 *ter of an acre each, and into streets, avenues, and out lots, and*  
8 *public squares, for the use of the town: and, whenever the*  
9 *survey of the same shall be completed, it shall be the duty of*  
10 *the surveyor for the Territory of Florida to cause two plats*  
11 *thereof to be made out, on which the town and out lots shall*  
12 *respectively be designated by progressive numbers; one of*  
13 *which shall be transmitted, with a copy of the field notes, to*  
14 *the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and the other*  
15 *to the Register of the land office for the proper district: Pro-*  
16 *vided, That the President may adopt, if he shall approve, such*  
17 *plan as may have been already reported to the General Land*  
18 *Office.*

1        SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the aforesaid  
2 town and out lots at said site, with the exception of such of  
3 them as the President may reserve for fortifications, shall be  
4 offered for sale to the highest bidder, under the direction of  
5 the Register and Receiver of the proper land office, at such  
6 times and places as the President shall, by public proclamation,  
7 designate for that purpose; and all lots remaining unsold  
8 at the closing of the public sales shall be subject to entry at  
9 private sale at the proper land office: *Provided,* That no town  
10 lot shall be sold for less than twenty-five dollars, nor any out  
11 lot for less than at the rate of twenty-five dollars per acre; and  
12 they shall, in every other respect, be sold on the same terms  
13 and conditions as are provided for the disposal of the other  
14 public lands of the United States.

1        SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That, previous to offer-  
2 ing the aforesaid town and out lots at public sale, the President  
3 of the United States shall cause the value of any improvements  
4 which may have been made thereon to be ascertained in such  
5 manner as he may prescribe for that purpose; and the pur-  
6 chaser at public sale of any lot upon which there are such  
7 improvements, other than the owner thereof, shall, in addition  
8 to the sum to be paid to the United States, be, and hereby is,  
9 required to pay to the owner of the improvements the value  
10 of them as thus ascertained; and, if payment therefor shall not  
11 be made upon the day on which the same was purchased, the

12 lot shall be again offered at public sale on the next day of sale,  
 13 and such person shall not be capable of becoming the pur-  
 14 chaser of that or of any other lot offered at that public sale:  
 15 *Provided*, That, if any lot so offered and bid off on the last day  
 16 of the public sale shall not be thus paid for, the same may be  
 17 entered at private sale, upon paying to the United States the  
 18 sum at which it was bid off, and to the owner of the improve-  
 19 ments the previously ascertained value thereof: *And provided*,  
 20 *further*, That the President be not authorized to offer any part  
 21 of said town lots for sale, till he shall be satisfied that the site  
 22 proposed for said town is not included within the limits of any  
 23 conflicting Spanish title, which may not be released, or decid-  
 24 ed to be invalid.

Passed the House of Representatives.

Attest:

MW. ST. C. CLARKE,

*Clerk House of Reps.*

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